



## Louisville Metro TRIAD

Law Enforcement and Seniors Working Together

WHAT is TRIAD? TRIAD means a three-way commitment among the chief of police in a county, the sheriff and seniors as represented through AARP. They agree to work together to reduce the criminal victimization of seniors and to enhance the delivery of law enforcement services to older persons.

TRIAD is a grassroots coalition of partnerships that brings police departments, the sheriff's office, criminal justice practitioners, senior volunteer groups and senior service providers together for the primary purpose of identifying ways to reduce the criminal victimization of seniors. The development of TRIADs began in Virginia in 1988 through the National Sheriff's Association.

Mayor Jerry Abramson formed Louisville Metro TRIAD in 1998 with significant help from the LMPD's Colonel Steve Conrad and from KIPDA and the city Senior Services. Over the past 12 years, TRIAD has benefited greatly from continued support from the Louisville Metro Police Department and the Sheriff's Office as well as KIPDA, AARP and the Louisville Metro Office for Aging & Disabled Citizens. Since TRIAD has no budget, local government has provided administrative support through mailings, brochures and communication.

Approximately 90 – 100 seniors (many representing a senior group), law enforcement personnel and providers of services to seniors (e.g. fire departments, assisted living facilities, the Better Business Bureau, Social Security, AARP, Office of the Attorney General, County Attorney's office) attend the monthly TRIAD meetings. A Steering Committee of past Chairs provides on-going direction and planning.

Meetings are held at 11:30 AM on the second Tuesday of every month at the Sheriff's Lodge (formerly Swiss Hall) at 719 Lynn Street. The meetings are open to anyone interested in elder safety. Each meeting begins with a casual lunch sponsored each month by different organizations and agencies who participate in TRIAD.

The agenda includes updates on Social Security, on senior safety from LMPD Crimes Against Seniors Unit and presentations from speakers of interest to seniors. Additionally, announcements provide a forum for current issues and crime information to be disseminated. The opportunities for networking are invaluable for both seniors and providers.

Continuing Projects for this year will be a 2010 - 2011 Calendar (funded by members of Metro Council) and Senior Day Out, held in October. Senior Day Out is a morning full of entertainment and information gathering, via provider booths, health screenings and speakers. After out-growing other locations, SDO is held at the Kentucky Commonwealth Convention Center. Seniors come representing every zip code in Jefferson County as well as others from surrounding counties and southern Indiana. TRIAD is active in local efforts to address elder abuse as well as other legislative issues.

TRIAD is also part of an annual "Drug Toss", where several community partners provide a safe place for depositing unwanted drugs and keeping the toxins from the landfill. This year marks the 6<sup>th</sup> annual "Drug Toss"; it has expanded to 6 locations. The LMPD and Solid Waste Management support the committee of providers and volunteers in holding the event.

October 2010